

NLA

Nebraska Library Association

Educate ● Advocate ● Innovate

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NO BETTER TIME TO ADVOCATE

by Brenda Ealey, NLA Advocacy Committee Member
& ALA Chapter Councilor

We hope you'll consider joining library staff, board members, community leaders and advocates for this year's [NLA Advocacy Day](#) on March 3rd in Lincoln. It's an annual opportunity to remind elected officials of the value that libraries provide to all their constituents, and to speak to the expertise and skills library staff offer in providing those services.

This is a critical time to ensure that libraries across Nebraska are supported in their efforts to provide access to library materials that speak to and respect a diverse community. It's also a wonderful opportunity to network and partner with library ambassadors, collect information on 2023 legislative issues, and visit with your Senator and their staff. Please [register](#) and invite your local officials and library friends to attend with you. Most importantly, reach out, invite, and register [your Senator](#) to join you for lunch.

You will find all of the details on pages 3-4, including NLA's first happy hour of the year to celebrate at the end of the day!

Nebraska Golden Sower Virtual Award Party!

We invite all schools, libraries, and home schools to celebrate the 2021-22 Nebraska Golden Sower Award winners LIVE on February 24! We'll hear the authors below accept the Nebraska Golden Sower Award, listen to Nebraska youth discuss what the winners' books mean to them, and participate in a Q&A to address the burning questions that Nebraska youth have about their writing.

MEET THE WINNING AUTHORS!



Chris Van Dusen

Author of *If I Built a School*, 2021-22 winner in the Picture Book category intended for grades K-2.



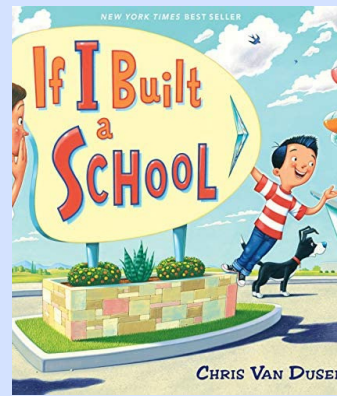
April Henry

Author of *Run, Hide, Fight Back*, 2021-22 winner in the Novel category intended for grades 6-8.



Rodman Philbrick

Author of *Wildfire*, 2021-22 winner in the Chapter Book category intended for grades 3-5.



Register [here!](https://forms.gle/zGzrReN6rEaaJ32G7)

<https://forms.gle/zGzrReN6rEaaJ32G7>

**Feb. 24, 2023
at 10 a.m. CST**

Contact Us

nlagoldensower@nebraskalibraries.org

ADVOCACY DAY 2023

BILL WATCH: NLA is keeping an eye on [LB71](#), [LB374](#), [LB441](#), and [LB635](#).
Details on these and other proposed legislation is available at nebraskalegislature.gov.

Stand up for libraries on March 3.

Join us in Lincoln as we learn about important legislative updates that pertain to libraries and library workers.

Invite your legislator to attend Advocacy Day! Find them [here](#).



**Lincoln Marriott
Cornhusker Hotel**

Fri., March 3, 2023
10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Prepare to Advocate for Nebraska Libraries!

Libraries are at the heart of Nebraska's communities. Each day, Nebraska librarians help citizens across the state access the materials and information they need to help improve their quality of life.

Do you love your local library? Please consider registering as a Nebraska library advocate. You will be notified of opportunities to make your voice heard and stand up for Nebraska libraries.

Nebraska needs libraries, and Nebraska's libraries need you.

Select your prefix

First & Last Name

Email

Address

City Zip

Next

Powered by OneClickPolitics

2% 11 people took action

Become a Library Advocate from afar.

Although our State Capitol is in Lincoln, effective advocacy can happen every day across the state. [Sign up here](#) to become a Library Advocate, and we'll send you action alerts when it's time to amplify your voice.

Tickets are \$35 each. Register [here](#) and view full details.

ADVOCACY DAY

at a glance



"Making a Difference One Library at a Time"

This year's Advocacy Day speaker is public school professional and award-winning grassroots library advocate, Mitchell Roush! Mitch is the Communications Director for Grand Island Public Schools and is passionate about amplifying voices.

Nebraska State Library Tour

After a few years of pandemic and construction, the Nebraska State Library is finally back open to the public!

Staff will discuss the history, architecture, and daily business of running Nebraska's state library, including their role in locating information for legislators. Please [register](#) so we know how many people to expect.



Librarians & Libations Happy Hour

Rare are our opportunities to network with one another outside of the annual NLA conference. Whether you attended Advocacy Day activities or not, stop by our first (and certainly not last!) happy hour of the year.

Saro Cider Lincoln | 1746 N St | 4:00 - 6:00 p.m.

NEBRASKA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION



2023 Legislative Report Card

Bill

Description

NLA's Stance

LB71

Change provisions relating to parental involvement in and access to learning materials in schools

NLA supports the Nebraska School Librarians Association (NSLA) concerning the availability of curriculum and content to all students.



LB374

Adopt the Parents' Bill of Rights and Academic Transparency Act

Censors books and information, burdening school staff with the expectation of reviewing every material in the school library.



LB412

Provide powers for the Public Service Commission under the Nebraska Broadband Bridge Act

Allocates ARPA broadband money to unserved and underserved areas of the state, especially in rural areas of Nebraska.



Bill**Description****NLA's Stance****LB441**

Change provisions relating to obscenity

Censors legally protected information and burdens tax payers and the courts for the unwarranted prosecution of library professionals, contributing to the shortage of qualified librarians and educators who will no longer feel safe working in Nebraska.

**LB635**

Provide requirements regarding access to digital and online resources provided for students by school districts, schools, and the Nebraska Library Commission

Encourages the censorship of important academic content while wasting taxpayer and state funds by increasing technology costs to schools and the Nebraska Library Commission.

**LB683**

Create the Nebraska Broadband Office and provide duties

Improves and maintains broadband access across Nebraska.

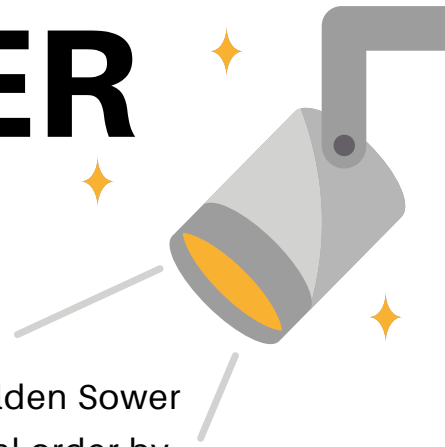
**LB722**

Provide authority for the Public Service Commission regarding construction of broadband or other telecommunications infrastructure

Improves and maintains broadband access across Nebraska.

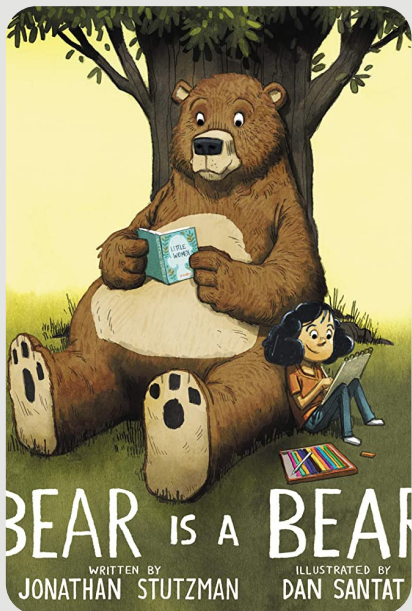


GOLDEN SOWER SPOTLIGHT



Each month, all year long, we'll spotlight a 2023-2024 Nebraska Golden Sower nominee from each category in the NLA e-newsletter! In alphabetical order by title, we'll share a synopsis of the Picture Books, Chapter Books, and Novels that Nebraska's young readers will enjoy during the 2023-24 schoolyear.

Picture Book



Bear is a Bear
by Jonathan Stutzman
illustrated by Dan Santat

Bear is a new friend, a fellow mischief-maker, a protector, and a dreamer. Through the many ups and downs of a girl's childhood, Bear is there to provide love and support.

Until it is time to say goodbye... and hello again.

Chapter Book



A Duet for Home
by Karina Yan Glaser

June and Tyrell are two sixth-graders living in a homeless shelter. As their friendship grows over a shared love of classical music, June and Tyrell confront a new housing policy that puts homeless families in danger.

Novel



Amari and the Night Brothers
by B. B. Alston

Amari's brother, Quinton, is a scholarship-winning golden boy who suddenly goes missing. She finds a ticking briefcase in his room... and a nomination for the Bureau of Supernatural Affairs. Where is Quinton, really?

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Diversity Interest Group is seeking members!

The Diversity Interest Group aids in recruitment and retention of under-represented groups, provides continuing education opportunities concerning all issues of diversity, and is a representative collective voice for all Nebraska libraries.

Contact [Lane](#) to get involved.

Tiny & Mighty Interest Group

Next meeting:

Tues., Feb. 21, 2023 at 10 a.m.

nlatiny&mighty@nebraskalibraries.org

Have news you'd like to share? Send an email to nlacommunications@nebraskalibraries.org for submission to the NLA newsletter and social media.

Seeking Chairs for Auditing and Bylaws & Handbook Committees

Are you a detail oriented, accuracy-focused NLA member? Your meticulous talents could greatly assist our Association. We're seeking volunteers to lead the **Auditing** and **Bylaws & Handbook** committees.

Please contact Holli Duggan at nlapresident@nebraskalibraries.org to apply or learn more.

Take your leadership to the next level.

NLA needs you! Want to impact Nebraska libraries in 2023? Join a Committee, Section, Round Table, or Interest Group that aligns with your expertise. View them [here](#).

Contact the [Chair](#) of the group you're interested in to get started!

Follow NLA!



CONTACT INFO

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Interest Groups

Tiny & Mighty

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Diversity

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VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Interested in committee leadership? Contact [Holle](#).

WE'RE ALL EARS!

Email nlacommunications@nebraskalibraries.org to submit your news, announcements, action items, and stories! Submissions can be placed in the newsletter and on NLA social media.

